

E-Bikes and Scooters

The following is a notification by Pennsylvania State Police Major William A. Brown to all Law Enforcement Agencies regarding Electric Scooters and E-Bikes.

Electric scooters have become a popular way to get around, but their legal status in Pennsylvania can be confusing. Here's a breakdown of the current status of Pennsylvania law regarding electric scooters and electric bikes.

Pennsylvania law is quite strict when it comes to electric scooters on public roads. The state considers them vehicles, as defined in **Title 75, §102 Definitions (*motor-driven cycle*)**, meaning they are not exempt from titling and registration requirements as set forth by PennDOT and would be required to pass equipment standards and inspection requirements. However, most electric scooters don't have the necessary equipment (like turn signals and mirrors) to meet these registration and inspection requirements. Electric scooters, like electric skateboards and electric unicycles, cannot be legally operated on public roadways. Electric scooters can only be operated on private property.

Pennsylvania law also prohibits electric scooters on sidewalks. **Title 75, § 3703.** In Pennsylvania, an electric bike (e-bike) is considered a "pedacycle with electric assist", provided it meets certain criteria: The electric motor must be under 750 watts, it can reach a maximum speed of 20 mph on a level surface when powered solely by the motor, the e-bike must weigh no more than 100 lbs., and the e-bike must have operable pedals. Additionally, the operator of the e-bike must be 16 years of age or older.

It's important to be aware that rules and regulations regarding electric scooters and electric bikes can change. Keep yourself up to date through these sources:

<http://www.pa.gov/services/dmv/register-a-motor-scooter-or-personal-mobility-device>

http://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/penndot/documents/travelinpa/active-transportation/documents/low_speed_fact_sheet_2021_final.pdf

<http://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/penndot/documents/public/dvspubsforms/bmv/bmv-fact-sheets/fs-momo.pdf>

<http://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/traveling-in-pa/riding-a-bike/bicycle-safety-and-pennsylvania-laws>

